

Monroe Lake

Program Schedule

on the back!

Website

stateparks.in.gov/2954.htm



E-Newsletter

bit.ly/monroeprograms



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Monroe Lake Office (Paynetown SRA): 4850 S. State Road 446, Bloomington, IN 47401, 812-837-9546
Monroe Lake Naturalist (Paynetown SRA: Activity Center): Jill Vance, 812-837-9967, jvance@dnr.IN.gov

Campground Reservations (Paynetown SRA): 866-622-6746, CAMP.IN.gov

Lake Monroe General Store and Boat Rental (at Paynetown SRA): 812-837-9909

Four Winds Resort & Marina, Boat Rental (at Fairfax SRA): 812-824-2628, fourwindsresort.com

Lake Monroe Marina and Boat Rental (at Cutright SRA): 812-837-9394, lakemonroemarina.com

Laura Thorne Training, kayaks - SUPs - wind surfing - lessons (at Fairfax SRA): 812-797-4747



Paynetown Activity Center

Fall Hours: Open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

Located next to the Swimming Beach inside Paynetown SRA

Got a question? Ask a Naturalist!

The **Naturalist's Office** is located inside the Activity Center. You can also pick up maps/brochures/flyers or browse our library of field guides and other books.

Live Snakes & Interpretive Exhibits

Check in on our live snakes! We rotate in a new set of wall/shelf exhibits at the beginning of each summer and feature a large selection of taxidermy animals on permanent display.

Hoosier Quest: Explore, Discover, Challenge

You can **collect a unique pin** for each Indiana State Park in *Explore* (each property can often be completed during a single day/weekend visit). Individuals can also earn special patches through both *Discover* and *Challenge*.

Free Fishing Equipment Rental

Renters must be at least 18 years of age with a valid government ID. **Check-out up to 4 sets per person** during open hours; return between 1 and 5 p.m. the next day.

Daily Craft & Coloring Table

We feature a **different craft each day**; most crafts are suitable for ages 5+. Another table is always stocked with crayons and a selection of coloring pages.

Kids' Play Area & Small World Play Station

Puppet stage, board and card games, puzzles, large felt board, picture books, touch table, and **Small World play station** (features rotating set of landscapes with miniature animals and habitat elements).

Jigsaw Puzzle Table

Spend a few minutes or a whole afternoon working on our current jigsaw puzzle (500-1500 piece puzzles designed for older children and adults). A different puzzle is rotated in after each puzzle is completed.

Recycling Center

Recycle your **aluminum cans** with us! Proceeds fund programs, activities, and exhibits. You can also recycle plastic bottles and paper (no food containers).



Paynetown Fossil Dig Love searching for fossils? Check out our Fossil Dig at the **back end of the Overflow Parking Area** at Paynetown SRA! Although rock and fossil collecting is prohibited at Monroe Lake, any rocks and fossils found *in this activity site* can be taken home with you!



Program Schedule SEPTEMBER 2016

Locations are at PAYNETOWN SRA, unless otherwise noted.

ROVING NATURALIST

One of our naturalists typically walks through the Campground area on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights, as well as on Sunday mornings.

We may have an interesting item to share, a quick game to play, or an invite to an upcoming program. And don't be afraid to ask us your questions!

We offer both drop-in programs (from ____ to ____), where you may arrive at any point during that time period, as well as programs with a specific start time (at ____). **If the program has a specific start time, please make sure you arrive on time or we may start/leave without you!**

Programs listed here are designed for families/individuals. Schools, scouts, and other organized groups should contact the Monroe Lake Naturalist for info on scheduling a private program (minimum 2 weeks notice required).

Friday, September 2

Nature Print Pictures at 8:00 p.m. Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

Let your creative side come out to play this evening and create a unique picture using a combination of "nature prints" (natural objects used like stamps!) and freeform painting. *30 to 45 minutes*

Saturday, September 3

Are You a Hoosier? from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Patio

Drop by to test your knowledge of Indiana folklore and facts (prizes!)...

Monarch Maze from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Patio

Monarch butterflies are in the middle of their migration to Mexico. What kind of dangers do they face along? How many will safely complete the trip? Drop by to put yourself in the place of a Monarch and see if you can successfully make it through the Monarch "maze."

Activity takes 5 to 10 minutes to complete.



Invasion of the Locusts! at 9:00 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

Have you heard stories about ravenous swarms of locusts leaving devastated crop fields in their wake? Perhaps you've heard of the 8th plague of Egypt? Come and learn about the insect behind the stories: the grasshopper! Stick around after the main program to make a grasshopper/locust craft. **30 to 45 minutes**

Limestone Carving Demonstration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Demonstration Location: Activity Center Shelter

Local limestone artist Amy Brier and an assistant will carve a limestone reliquary over a series of four Saturdays in September. A reliquary is a limestone ball that leaves a seamless impression when rolled in sand.

The artists will interact with the public and share the story of stone as a natural resource, its significance to American history and artistic merits.

Visitors can follow the creative process as they watch the limestone being shaped and ask questions of the artists, and will also have a chance to try the tools themselves on a stone reserved for that purpose.

This activity is a signature project of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission, and is made possible, in part, with support from the Indiana Arts Commission and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Sunday, September 4

Tick, Tack TRACK at 10:00 a.m.

Location: *Meet on the Activity Center Patio*

Join the naturalist for a walk along the shoreline to look for animal tracks in the sand, learn how to identify some of the common tracks found here, and then make your own plaster cast of a track to take home. *45 minutes*

Floating Frog Chorus at 8:15 p.m.

Location: *Activity Center Amphitheater*

We'll begin by exploring the songs that the lake's frogs and toads sing in the evenings, creating a replica of their chorus. Then we'll head down to the shoreline to check out a special mini-raft built just to attract frogs. *45 to 60 minutes*

Hughes Cemetery at 4:00 p.m.

Location: *Meet on patio next to the General Store*

Did you know there was once a cemetery right here in Paynetown? We'll walk over to check out the remnants of the gravestones and discuss what happened to the people that were once buried here. *30 minutes*



Fireworks! at approx. 8:30 p.m.

Location: *Fairfax SRA*

This Labor Day Weekend fireworks show is being presented and sponsored by the Fourwinds Resort and Marina. (Please note: Fireworks are generally not visible from Paynetown SRA.) Questions about the fireworks should be directed to the Fourwinds at 812-824-2628.

Monday, September 5

Discover, Connect, Explore! at 11:00 a.m.

Program Location: *Activity Center Amphitheater*

Come and learn about Indiana State Park's Hoosier Quest program! Complete challenges and activities to earn incentives in Discover and Connect, or collect a unique pin from each of our properties in Explore. We'll introduce you to all three programs and help you get started. There's an option for all age levels (yes, adults too!). *30 minutes*



Flora Field Day **Tuesday, September 6 at 9:30 a.m.**

- Sign up for this session at <http://bit.ly/florafieldsep2016>
- Registration required by September 3.
- Free; recommended for ages 12 and up.
- Session location: Salt Creek SRA

Things to Bring:

- Newcomb's Wildflower Guide (extra copies available, if you don't have your own)
- bug spray (long pants are also a good idea!)
- hat and sunglasses (for sun protection)
- water bottle (pre-filled)
- camera (if you're the picture-taking type)

Want to work on your flora identification skills? Practice with a naturalist! Field day emphasis is on proper use and application of an ID key, which opens the door to identifying thousands of species. The naturalist will work with each attendee based on their prior experience. If you've never worked with flower ID before, this is a great way to learn. If you have prior experience, this is a fun way to practice your skills (and maybe add some new blooms to your life list!). *2 hours*

Saturday, September 10

Tree Trek Hike at 9:30 a.m.

Location: Meet at Trailhead

You'll assemble your own tree ID guide as we hike through the woods to take a closer look at leaves and bark. Discover how to recognize 10 different species!

60 minutes

Squirrels and Acorns at 8:00 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

Squirrels are some of the most devious hidiers in the wild! We'll explore the strategies that they use to protect their nuts (yes, I said it) and play a simple game to challenge your caching skills. We'll conclude by making acorn magnets that you can take home. **45 minutes**

Limestone Carving Demonstration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Demonstration Location: Activity Center Shelter

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Visitors can follow the creative process as they watch the limestone being shaped and ask questions of the artists, and will also have a chance to try the tools themselves on a stone reserved for that purpose.

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Monroe Lake: Moores Creek SRA

Shoreline Cleanup

Sunday, September 11 at 1:30 p.m.

A summer full of fun and recreation at Monroe Lake creates more than memories... it also results in a lot of trash!

We need **your help** to clean up the mess and restore our lakeshore to an inviting habitat for both people and wildlife. We will be transporting people by boat to areas that are difficult to reach by other means.

Volunteer registration deadline is September 8!

Register ONLINE at <http://bit.ly/monroecleanup2016>

All volunteers must be at least 10 years old; ages 10-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is limited to 100 volunteers.

Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Volunteers should wear closed-toe shoes and bring their own water bottle. Adult volunteers will be required to sign a DNR Volunteer Agreement.

Registered volunteers should **check in** between 1 and 1:30 p.m.

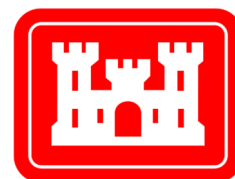
Orientation begins at 1:30 p.m. **Cleanup** ends at 5:30 p.m.

Free cookout for volunteers immediately following cleanup!

...and there will also be a prize drawing, sponsored by JL Waters!



Lake Monroe Marina



Nature on the Water Paddling Trip: PICNIC LUNCH PADDLE!

Tuesday, September 13 at 10:30 a.m.

- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/naturewatersep2016>
- Preregistration is required by September 5.
- Program fee is \$10 per person.
- Limited to 8 people. Restricted to ages 16 and up.
- All participants must have at least 2 hours of prior paddling experience OR have completed an Intro to Kayaking workshops.
- Bring your own canoe/kayak, or rent a kayak from us for an additional \$25.
- Pack a brown bag lunch – we'll break along the shoreline to eat.
- Note: There is a possibility of one or two portages on this trip.

Explore the quieter side of Monroe Lake during these guided paddling trips that journey through backwaters, wetlands, bays, and/or slow-moving streams. Trips highlight beautiful views, hidden wildlife, aquatic plants, and unique land features. **2 ½ to 3 hours**

Saturday, September 17

Autumn Leaves from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Patio

Drop by to explore why and how leaves change color, and transfer the colors of leaves to fabric to make an autumn keepsake.

Naked Eye Astronomy at 8:30 p.m.

Location: Swimming Beach

Weather Notice This program requires clear or mostly clear skies. It will be cancelled if there is too much cloud cover. If sky conditions look iffy, call the Activity Center at 812-837-9967 to check program status.

Special Request Please do not shine your vehicle headlights onto the swimming beach when arriving/departing! Bright lights make it harder for our eyes to see all of the amazing objects in the night sky. Bring a blanket (recommended!) to lie on (or some camp chairs) and relax on the beach as we take a tour of the night sky... we'll navigate through the universe and share stories about the constellations. *45 minutes*

Limestone Carving Demonstration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Demonstration Location: Activity Center Shelter

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Campfire Cooking Workshop

- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/campfirecook18sep2016>
- Register by September 12.
- Cost is \$20 per person.
- Limited to 10 people.
- Recommended for ages 10 and up; children must be accompanied by a registered adult.
- Location: Paynetown SRA

Sunday, September 18 at 3:30 p.m.

Whether you want to add variety to your next camping menu or just pick up a new cooking skill, this workshop is for you! We'll teach different techniques and recipes for cooking with an open wood-burning fire. Participants will prepare, cook/bake, and eat a variety of food. Everyone takes home a set of recipes (and usually a plate of extra food!). **2 to 2 ½ hours**

Saturday, September 24

FREE Admission on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 to ALL Indiana State Parks, including Paynetown and Fairfax SRAs at Monroe Lake!

Limestone Carving Demonstration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Demonstration Location: Activity Center Shelter

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A Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day

Monroe Lake: Paynetown SRA

September 24, 2016

Completely FREE event, plus...

FREE admission to Paynetown SRA!

Hunt & Fish Expo 1 to 4 p.m. in the Deer Run Shelter area

Hunting and Retrieving Dogs

Fish Identification and Management

Venison Preparation and Cooking

Turkey Hunting 101

Fishing Skills and Casting Practice

Archery for Hunters

Hunting with Raptors

Kids Activities

Check out the PRESENTATION SCHEDULE on the NEXT PAGE!

Furs, Fins & Feathers Presentation Schedule

12:00 p.m. Electrofishing Demo

Location: Dock across from Swimming Beach

Electrofishing uses direct current electricity to attract fish so that they can be easily netted (with no harm to the fish!). It's a common scientific survey method used to sample fish populations to determine abundance, density, and species composition. Debra King, a Fisheries Biologist with the Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife, will do a live electrofishing demo (check out the fish she catches at the Expo later this afternoon!).

1:00 p.m. Hunting Dog Demo

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

A professional trainer with the American Hunting Dog Association will lead both "finished" dogs and in-training pups through a series of retrieves, whistle stops, and obedience drills. Meet the dogs up close (they are super friendly!) and ask questions! 20 minutes

1:25 p.m. Falconry Demo

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

Falconers train birds of prey for the sport of hunting. The Indiana Falconers Association will introduce you to some of their live birds (American Kestrel, Finnish Goshawk, Red-tailed Hawk, and Harris Hawk), discussing and showcasing their unique traits and how each one is used in falconry. 20 minutes

1:50 p.m. Archery Demo

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

Scott Mitchell with TimberHawk Bows will highlight and demonstrate key archery skills and discuss different types of bows and their advantages for hunting. 20 minutes

2:15 p.m. Fishing Skills Demo

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

Indiana Bass n' Gals will demonstrate casting technique using different types of rods and discuss how to match up your targeted fish with the appropriate baits. 20 minutes

2:40 p.m. Hunting Dog Demo

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

A professional trainer with the American Hunting Dog Association will lead both "finished" dogs and in-training pups through a series of retrieves, whistle stops, and obedience drills. Meet the dogs up close (they are super friendly!) and ask questions! 20 minutes

3:05 p.m. Falconry Demo

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

Falconers train birds of prey for the sport of hunting. The Indiana Falconers Association will introduce you to some of their LIVE birds (American Kestrel, Finnish Goshawk, Red-tailed Hawk, and Harris Hawk), discussing and showcasing their unique traits and how each one is used in falconry. 20 minutes

3:30 p.m. Turkey Calling

Location: Deer Run Shelter Presentation Area

Jim Bartlett, a former competitive turkey caller and member of the National Wild Turkey Federation, will demonstrate turkey calling techniques and discuss how they can be used to increase your hunting success. 30 minutes

4:00 p.m. How to Train a Hunting Dog

Location: Deer Run Shelter

A brief overview of positive reinforcement training vs the traditional compulsion training (as taught by Robert Milner in his book, "Absolutely Positively Gundog Training"). Trainers from the American Hunting Dog Association will discuss the genetic attributes that drive dogs, picking the right dog, communication between trainer and dog, cues/commands/prompts, delivery to hand, whistle stops, maintenance drills, and, most importantly, training the trainer. 60 minutes

7:00 p.m. Nature's Hunters and Anglers: A LIVE Raptor Presentation!

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

We welcome the Indiana Raptor Center to Monroe Lake tonight for a special presentation featuring some of their LIVE birds of prey! Humans aren't nature's only hunters and anglers, and tonight you'll get to meet some of the best – eagles, hawks, owls... the IRC will have a mix of their current educational birds to share with you. 60 minutes

Presented by





Sunday, September 25

The Death Cap Mushroom at 10:30 a.m.

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

The Amanita mushroom, also known as the Death Cap, is the most deadly mushroom in the United States (yes, it grows right here in Paynetown!) – but it's also one of the prettiest. You'll learn how to recognize it and discover how it lives, and then make your own Amanita mushroom craft to take home. **30 minutes**

Lunch with Nature Series: Weasels

Monday, September 26 at 11:00 a.m.



- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/lwnsep2016>
- Register by September 23.
- Limited to 12 people, recommended for adults.
- Location: Paynetown SRA

Join us for our monthly Lunch with Nature Series!

Bring a sack lunch to enjoy during the main presentation. Afterwards, there is a short hike/activity that highlights the topic. **90 minutes**

This month's topic is: Weasels. Weasels in Indiana? Absolutely!
Find out what species we have, how they live, and where they've been "hiding."

*Have you made your
camping reservations for
Ghostly Gathering?*

Join us!

October 28-29

www.camp.IN.gov

